



Multinational Interoperability Council

Newsletter 02/2006

MIC 2006

The Multinational Interoperability Council (MIC) held its seventh annual meeting (*MIC 2006*) at the Ministry of Defense (MOD) facilities in Whitehall, London, United Kingdom (U.K.), from 6 to 8 June 2006. Air Vice-Marshal Chris Nickols, Assistant Chief of the Defense Staff (Operations), UK Ministry of Defense, and Rear Admiral Anthony Winns, Vice Director for Operations (J3), U.S. Joint Staff, co-hosted the conference. Thirteen flag/general officers from 8 different nations attended the conference representing the NATO Allied Command Transformation and New Zealand.

The seven MIC Principals reviewed the work completed or in progress by the MIWG's, approved the MIWG's' work plans, discussed a wide variety of interoperability issues, and provided general guidance and direction for the MIC way ahead in 2006-2007. The MIC Principals accomplished the following during the meeting:



RADM Winns thanks the ITA Ambassador Giancarlo Aragona for hosting the Icebreaker at the Italian Embassy

Approved and signed:

MIC Membership Policies and Procedures document, Chg 1 to the MIC Coalition Building Guide, MIC Charter, and the MIC Information Exchange Memorandum of Understanding document. The MIC Principals also approved the establishment of a standing Medical MIWG to explore Medical Interoperability issues that are not covered by other medical multifora groups. The MIC Principals also approved the revised MIC Strategic Plan, which is the foundation document for all activities of the MIC. The MIC Principals also approved a Bi-Annual Requirements Process (Gap Analysis) for the MIWG's and to continue with recurring Table Top Exercises during future MIC meetings.

The following national points of interest were briefed by the MIC Principals:

- Transformation and the Impact on Future Australian Operations (AUS)
- Canadian Forces (CF) Transformation: Organizing for Operations (CAN)
- Operation EUFOR RD CONGO (DEU)
- French Experimental Common Operational Picture (COP) (FRA)
- Transformation in the Italian Armed Forces – Joint Capabilities (ITA)
- A U.S. National Perspective on Current Coalition Operations (USA)

The MIWG's briefed the following results:

- **Operations (Ops) MIWG** briefed completion of the Ops Annex to the Coalition Information Exchange Environment (CIEE) document (Version 2), completion of a discussion paper on

requirements for Common Operational Picture (COP), and on finalizing a discussion paper on Intelligence Sharing between coalition nations. The Ops MIWG also discussed efforts to develop a Program Security Instruction (PSI)/Security Classification Guide (SCG) document in support of the MICIEM document, to develop a Rapid Recce Checklist/Best Practices Handbook, to develop a Coalition Execution Guide (CEG), to draft Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Collaborative Staffing between MIC nations, and to investigate policies and procedures for sharing information with non-MIC member nations.



Participants of MIC 2006 in London

- **Network MIWG** briefed the updates on the establishment of the MIC Coalition Wide Area Network and the revised MGD Statement of User Need. The Network MIWG also discussed the Multinational Command Post Evaluation (MNCPE) program, the development of a secure Video teleconferencing (VTC) capability between the MIC nations, and MIC involvement in existing NATO/Combined Communications-Electronics Board (CCEB) spectrum management forums.
- **Doctrine, Plans and Procedures (DPP) MIWG** briefed harmonizing Coalition Building Guide (CBG) terminology with NATO and Allied Joint Publication (AJP) terminology, reviewing Lesson Identified by MIC nations for doctrinal impact, and incorporating “transition” into a CBG planning construct.

- **Concept Development and Experimentation (CDE) MIWG** discussed transitioning of CDE MIWG Chairmanship/Secretariat responsibilities, reviewed CDE MIWG baseline paper and national appendices, revised CDE MIWG TOR document, completed latest version on Multinational Information Operation (MNIO), provided/coordinated on Multinational Experiment (MNE) 4 results, and endorsed a Strategic Planning Guide developed for MNE 4 for Effects Based Approach to Operations (EBAO) for national consideration.
- **Logistics MIWG** briefed completion of Common Record of Logistics Reconnaissance document, completion of the Log Annex to CIEE 2008, updating the Log MIWG TOR document, status of bi-lateral Mutual Logistics Support Arrangements (MLSA), status of Transportation Asset Coordination efforts, and status of Common, Compatible, Interoperable Resource Tracking Capability efforts.
- **Pilot Medical MIWG** briefed work to date and recommended the Medical MIWG's TOR document and future work plan based on MIC Principals' approval of the establishment of a standing Medical MIWG.



A Keynote address was presented by U.K. Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Glenn Torpy. Several other UK Speakers gave presentations with regard to the Challenge of Interoperability in Current Operations.

All Participants enjoyed the beautiful City of London and the outstanding hospitality by our British hosts. Brig Gen Corsini, ITA, invited members to attend *MIC 2007* hosted by Italy from 4 to 7 June 2007 in Venice.

www.jcs.mil/j3/mic/
mic.es@js.pentagon.mil